

HOLIDAY OPEN House

A HISTORIC GATHERING

Where: Gideon H. Pond House. Pond-Dakota Mission Park,

401 E. 104th St. When: Sunday, December 19.

Time: 1 - 4 p.m. Cost: Free.

Get in a festive mood with a touch of Bloomington's history. Enjoy a tour of this 19th century house, listen to holiday organ music and sip refreshments. For more information, call Parks and Recreation.



A MONTH-LONG CELEBRATION OF Bloomington's youth, this series of events combines community and family fun with educational programs and ceremonies to honor organizations who help kids and kids who help others. Parks and Recreation, Bloomington Public Schools and many community groups call upon residents to join in the festivities.

KICK-OFF

When: Wednesday, February 2

6:30 p.m.

Where: Knott's Camp Snoopy,

Mall of America.

The **Recognition Ceremony** honors

those who have done something special to benefit our community youth, youth groups, and volunteer organizations that serve youth.

COMMUNITY CARNIVAL

When: Saturday, February 19

12:30 - 3 p.m.

Where: Northwestern Health

Sciences University,

84th and Penn Ave.

The event includes entertainment, exhibits, multi-cultural event, preschool play area and much more!

Please sponsor activities that will foster the mission of Bloomington Loves Its Kids. To participate, call Diane Moe at 952-563-8877.

WINTER ACTIVITIES HEAT UP THE COLD AIR

YOUTH SPORTS

HOCKEY

BLOOMINGTON AMATEUR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION (BAHA) BRINGS ICE HOCKEY instruction and game competition to boys and girls, ages 5 - 18. This past spring, BAHA merged its recreational level hockey with BAA to allow youth to participate in hockey at the level they desire. Bloomington skaters may try out for the traveling teams sponsored by one of the Kennedy or Jefferson booster clubs or simply sign up to play on a rec-level team. Tournaments held at the Bloomington Ice Garden, 3600 West 98th Street, include:

RECREATION

- Regional Holiday Tournament, December 26 31.
- Bloomington Squirt Invitational, January 19 23.

For more information, call Ed or Darla Beek at 952-831-0546 or visit www.bloomingtonhockey.com.

BLOOMINGTON ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION (BAA)

Visit our Web site: www.baaonline.org or call the BAA Information Hotline: 952-888-0807 and press the mailbox number.

Month	Mailbox	Activity	Grades
January	#21	Girls Volleyball	4 - 12
March	#11	Boys and Girls B	aseball:
		Mini-Mite	Age 4 - 5 (Age 4 by 9/1/04)
	#11	In-House	K - 8
	#11	Majors	9 - 12
	#20	Girls Softball	1 - 8
	#20	Co-Rec Softball	9 - 12

ADULT SPORTS

TENNIS DRILLS

Where:

Instructed by a certified teaching professional, drills are practice sessions to improve stroke production. Facilities include locker rooms, showers, sauna, whirlpool, steam room, swimming pool, indoor track and exercise room.

When: Thursdays, January 6 - February 10 or

Thursdays, February 17 - March 24.

Times: **Beginner** 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Intermediate 7:30 - 8:30 p.m. 98th St. Northwest Athletic Club.

Cost: \$55 for six one-hour lessons. Limit: Six per class; minimum of four. Register: Call Parks and Recreation.

DAYTIME VOLLEYBALL

All games are played at the Bloomington Armory, 3300 West 98th Street. Feel free to show up alone; teams are formed on the spot each week.

When: Tuesdays and Thursdays, beginning January 4.

Time: 9:30 - 11 a.m. Cost: \$1.25 each session.

GALAXY YOUTH CENTERS

Galaxy Youth Centers are located in three middle schools: Oak Grove, 1300 West 106th Street; Olson, 4551 West 102nd Street; and Valley View, 8900 Portland Avenue. The centers provide a safe, nurturing environment for youth, grades 6 to 8. Activities include music, foosball, Ping-Pong, billiards, video games, arts and crafts, service projects and sports. Hours are Monday - Friday, from 2:30 - 6 p.m. For more information, call 952-681-6107.



AR&LE

The Adaptive Recreation & Learning Exchange (AR&LE) provides opportunities for individuals with disabilities to participate in recreational, social and educational programs. These opportunities are for people with varied ability levels in specially designed programs that meet their needs. For a quarterly brochure of activities, call Parks and Recreation.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Our volunteers have a great time - you could, too! Just a few hours can make a world of difference. Call

Janet at 952-681-6121.



ONE COOL EVENT

When: Tuesday - Sunday, January 18 - 23.

Where: Various locations.

PARKS AND RECREATION AND THREE Rivers Park District are planning winter festival activities that include:

- Snowshoeing.
- Cross-country skiing.
- Hockey.
- Skating.
- Ice fishing.

For more information, call Parks

and Recreation or visit www.ci.bloomington.mn.us,

keywords: Winter Fete.

LOOK AHEAD

PLAN YOUR EVENT PICNIC SHELTERS AVAILABLE **FOR RENT**



PICNIC SHELTERS WILL SOON BE AVAILABLE to rent for next year's picnics, receptions, reunions or meetings. Registration begins January 3 for use April through mid-October. Shelters have electricity, grills, restrooms and drinking fountains. In addition, City parks offer playground equipment, volleyball and horseshoe courts, walking trails and softball fields. Reduced rates are available for nonprofit Bloomington youth groups.

PROPOSED* RENTAL RATES

Moir Park

104th St. at Morgan Ave.

Accommodates 200+. Shelter 1:

\$180 + tax = \$191.70.Accommodates 50.

\$123 + tax = \$131.

WEST BUSH LAKE PARK

Shelter 2:

94th St. at West Bush Lake Rd.

Shelter 1: Accommodates 240.

\$180 + tax = \$191.70.

Shelter 2: Accommodates 150.

\$123 + tax = \$131.

EAST BUSH LAKE PARK

9140 East Bush Lake Rd.

Shelter 3: Accommodates 200.

\$238 + tax = \$253.47.

SMITH PARK

8155 Park Ave. S.

Shelter: Accommodates 30.

\$77 + tax = \$82.01

*Subject to City Council approval

December 2004.